

# Maurice Hinchey NEWS

## 26<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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### KINGSTON SCHOOL DISTRICT WINS ENERGY STAR AWARD

WASHINGTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today announced that Kingston City Schools Consolidated has been named a 2001 ENERGY STAR partner of the year by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The school district is being recognized as a leader in energy efficiency and conservation.

"Kingston City Schools is setting a great example for companies in this region and throughout the country," said Hinchey. "In addition to cutting costs for taxpayers, the school district is helping to solve a national problem by reducing energy demand. That's the key to addressing our increasingly dire energy dilemma."

In selecting Kingston City Schools as a "partner of the year", the EPA cited the school district's aggressive plan to improve the energy performance of all its schools through a construction project that was completed in November. Kingston City Schools saved more than \$395,000 through energy-efficient upgrades in 2000 and is currently assessing the energy performance of its new investments in high efficiency lighting, windows and heating systems across the district.

One of only 32 award recipients nationwide, Kingston City Schools is the only public school district in the country to be honored. The award will be presented to Philip Sinagra, Assistant to the Superintendent for Business Management, at a ceremony in Washington this evening. Hinchey congratulated Sinagra and Richard Verdi of the New York Power Authority today at a meeting in his Washington office. The Power Authority designed and implemented the project for the school district.

ENERGY STAR was introduced by the US Environmental Protection Agency in 1992 as a voluntary labeling program designed to identify and promote energy-efficient products. It has expanded to cover new homes, most of the buildings sector, residential heating and cooling equipment, major appliances, office equipment, lighting, consumer electronics, and other products. ENERGY STAR annually recognizes corporate and governmental trendsetters for their exemplary leadership in voluntarily reducing unnecessary energy use and preventing pollution.

The following is a photograph of Hinchey, Sinagra and Verdi in Washington today.

